TIMBER TALK

VOLUME: 17 - ISSUE: 4 - APRIL 1992

EDITOR: Garry Braunwarth - Box 17, Site 9, RR 5 - Calgary, Alberta T2P 2G6 Canada

CAWMC OFFICERS:

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APPOINTED POSITIONS:

Editor: Garry Braunwarth
Membership Chairman: Don Robb
Fund Raiser: Garry Braunwarth
Auction Coordinator: Al Munro

DUES: Dues in The Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors are only $10.00 per calendar year and should be sent to our Membership Chairman - Don Robb, P. O. Box 724, Waterloo, Ontario N2J 4C2 Canada.

AUCTION CORRECTION: With respect to the auction printed in the February issue, which closes June 30th, Al advises of the following corrections:

Lot 27 - was shown as 4180-009b v should be listed as 4180-001
Lot 35 - was shown as 4850-001 should be listed as 4850-001 v

It is anticipated that there will be more than the handfull of bidders that there were for the previous auction. Please review the auction listing carefully as there are a number of good wood plus wood that has been painted and/or varnished. We utilize our auction income to help defray the expenses of the club, especially the costs of printing and mailing Timber Talk.

WITH DEEP SADNESS: CAWMC lost another strong supporter when Louis 'Scoop' Lewry passed away February 24, 1992 at the age of 72. On the next page you will read two articles about him that appeared in the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix and the Globe and Mail. Scoop will be remembered as a friend to many, many a frequent issuer of wooden money, and a real fine gentleman. Scoop also guest edited an issue of Timber Talk a number of years ago.

GET WELL WISHES: To Jim Deluney who recently had a leg amputated below the knee. We wish you a speedy recovery Jim. For those wishing to send Jim a card, his address is: 109 Sydenham St., Angus, Ontario LOM 1BO Canada. As you know Jim is one of the main producers of wooden nickels in Canada as well as a supporter of CAWMC.

ARTICLES: Thanks to all you members who have sent in articles, wood listings, etc. It is appreciated, not only by your Editor, but also by all members of CAWMC who share your interest in wood.

MEMBERSHIP LISTING: As we do from time to time we will be printing a membership listing in a forthcoming issue of Timber Talk. We are wiating to finalize the current members in good standing for 1992.

FREE WOOD OF THE MONTH: This month you will have to turn to Page 3 to see the wood enclosed with this issue. Thanks to Lou Vesh for another hand made wood, sent to me prepackaged for distribution to all members. It is donations such as this that allow a wood to be sent to members each (we hope) month. We also have an issue on hand for the next issue. If you would like to donate a few wood or 200, please send them to the Editor. They don't even have to be all the same issue. Although with most issues we send out the same wood, there is the odd issue of the bulletin where we use the 'grab-bag' approach with each member getting a wood - any wood.

SCOOP IS FONDLY REMEMBERED:

OBITUARY / *Scoop Lewry*

Ex-mayor of Moose Jaw was tireless promoter

Canadian Press

MOOSE JAW, Sask. — Scoop Lewry, who spent 19 colourful and often controversial years as Moose Jaw's mayor over a span of four decades, has died of heart failure at the age of 72.

He was christened Louis Harrington Lewry, but everyone called him Scoop, a tag from his days as a journalist. He had his name legally changed to Scoop.

But he was also known as Mr. Moose Jaw because of his tireless promotion of the southern Saskatchewan city.

Stories about him are legion. There was his year as a member of Parliament after he defeated Ross Thatcher, who went on to become Saskatchewan premier. His collection of wooden nickels. His Order of Canada medal in 1980. And his endless capacity for politicking.

Mr. Lewry, who left the mayor's chair for the last time in 1988, was talking just last month about running in a civic by-election despite his poor health from long battles with cancer. "He figured he wanted one more hurrah," said John Strauss, managing editor of the Moose Jaw Times-Herald, for which Mr. Lewry wrote an occasional column. "Claimed he had a clean bill of health from his doctor — Scoop was always trying to make himself look good."

Himself and his city.

"All he wanted was the best things for Moose Jaw," said Edith Hill, his ex-wife. "All he could talk about was the best things for Moose Jaw."

To that end, Mr. Lewry handed out wooden nickels across Canada to promote the city. He challenged other mayors to pillow fights and beard-growing contests. He sold two-centimetre chunks of Moose Jaw dirt for $2 and organized a lottery for losers of other lotteries.

His first career was as a journalist. He began as a freelance writer for the now-defunct Winnipeg Tribune and moved to a reporting job for Moose Jaw radio station CHAB.

He briefly published his own weekly newspaper, the Western Spotlight, and eventually spent four years at the Regina Leader-Post.

He entered politics in 1947 after being dared to run for alderman. A year later at age 31, he became the youngest mayor in Canada.

In 1957, he jumped to federal politics, becoming a Co-operative Commonwealth Federation MP by beating Mr. Thatcher of the Liberals. A year later, he was defeated in the Conservative landslide under John Diefenbaker.

In 1964 he was back as mayor, in 1965 he became a public school trustee and in 1966 he was elected to both jobs at the same time.

He tried his hand at provincial politics in 1967, standing against his old rival Mr. Thatcher. It was a bitter campaign and Mr. Lewry lost. He returned to the familiar mayor's chair until 1970, when he was defeated.

He accepted a government job the next year. He ran for mayor again in 1982 and held the job until his retirement four years ago.

He married Jean Munro in 1942. They raised five children. Jean Lewry died in 1986.

A year later, he married Ms. Hill. They were divorced last year.

Mr. Lewry waged a battle with cancer for years. He was diagnosed with skin cancer in 1952. In 1975, lung cancer was discovered. One lung was removed and he was told he had nine months to live. In 1986, he had surgery for bone cancer.

SASKATOON STAR FEB 26/92

Mr. Moose Jaw, a.k.a. Scoop, dies at age 72 from cancer

MOOSE JAW (CP) — Louis Harrington (Scoop) Lewry, a former journalist and civic politician who came to be known as Mr. Moose Jaw, died Monday in hospital. He was 72.

Lewry, who was Moose Jaw mayor in four different decades, entered politics in 1947 by running for city council on a dare. Two years later, he became the youngest mayor in Canada at age 31.

In 1957, Lewry jumped to federal politics, becoming the CCF MP for Moose Jaw-Lake Centre. He beat Liberal Ross Thatcher, who had left the CCF the year before.

Lewry returned to civic politics in the mid-1960s and had the unusual distinction of being elected as both mayor and school trustee in 1966.

He was defeated as mayor in 1970, but returned to the job in 1982 for six more years.

This year, he had toyed with the idea of seeking a council seat in a byelection but was prevented by his failing health.

Lewry earned the nickname Scoop through a journalism career that began as a freelance writer for the defunct Winnipeg Tribune. He worked in radio, published his own weekly newspaper and wrote for the Regina Leader-Post and the Moose Jaw Times-Herald.

Lewry had many battles with cancer. He was diagnosed with skin cancer in 1952, with lung cancer in 1975 and with bone cancer in 1986. In 1975, he had one lung removed and was told he had just nine months to live.

Lewry was named to the Order of Canada in 1980.

TRIBUTES FOR LEWRY: About 200 people paid their last respects to former mayor L. H. (Scoop) Lewry at a modest memorial service Wednesday at St. John's Anglican Church in Moose Jaw.

Lewry, whose ardent promotion of the city earned him the title Mr. Moose Jaw, died Feb. 24 at 72.

His political career as a councillor, mayor and MP spanned 39 years, and in 1980 earned him an Order of Canada award.

Lewry earned the nickname Scoop in his early days as a reporter for CHAB Radio.

Rev. Ruth Taylor delivered a eulogy remembering Lewry for his ardent devotion to Moose Jaw.

"He did love this city with a passion," she said. "He did have a concern for the underprivileged. His down-to-earthness irritated some and amused others. But many more were grateful to him and for him.

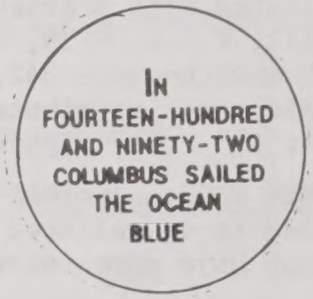
"As far as his contributions to this city, province and country goes, he deserves the commendation, 'Well done, good and faithful servant'."

STAR-PHOENIX MAR 6/92

MY WOODEN NICKEL'S WORTH ..... *by Lou Vest*

The wooden nickel included in this month's issue of Timber Talk carries a verse I recalled from elementary school days. That, however, was over fifty years ago and the source of those lines escapes me. If any reader can enlighten me on this, please drop me a line or let our editor know so that the author may receive proper credit.

Speaking of credit, it seems that the stature of Christopher Columbus has changed somewhat from that of the primary school teachings of a half century ago. According to what I've been reading lately it is a very controversial subject. Not so with the wood shown here though. Whether he was hero, fraud, barbarian, explorer or exploiter, or all of the above is not questioned here. The issuing of this wooden nickel on my part is neither in praise nor condemnation of Columbus. It simply marks the quincentenary of his crossing the Atlantic Ocean and landing on the shores of the "New World".



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: This should have been written much sooner, but my flight from the ice and snow interrupted my correspondence for about seven weeks while we basked in the southern sun.

Late last year I received a Certificate in the mail awarded to me for literary contributions to Timber Talk. It is signed by C.A.W.M.C. president Pat White and past president Norm Belsten. I wish to thank the executive for this recognition and assure you that it is framed and hangs in a place of honour in our den.

* *

EDITOR'S NOTE: Lou's comment above was written earlier this year, but is only being published at this time as it accompanies the article above. Lou - the certificate was hard earned and was most deserving. Lou's 'My Wooden Nickel's Worth' is eagerly sought out in Timber Talk. Keep those columns coming Lou....

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Stanley Clute
331 - 6th Ave. S. E.
High River, Alberta
T1V 1H9

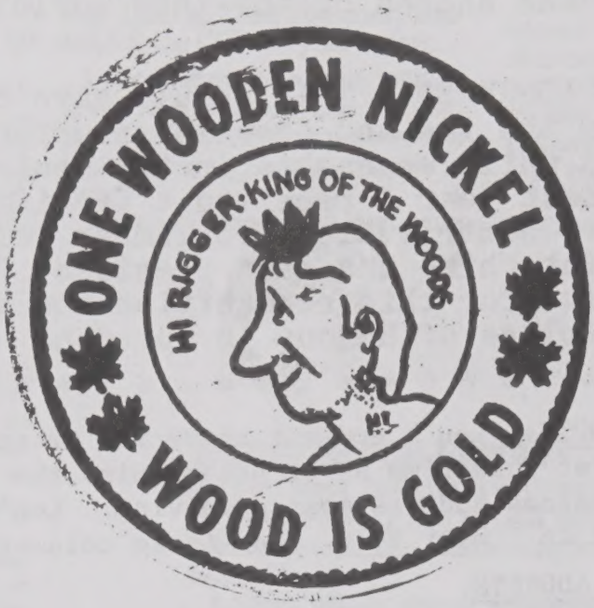
Mark Mogen
633 - 2nd Avenue N. W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2N 0E2

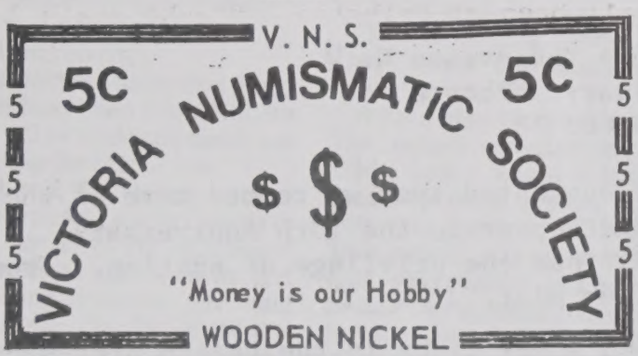
CAWMC TRIVIA: About seven years ago Jerry REmick suggested that we record more of the history of CAWMC before it was forgotten. Much did appear in the 10th Anniversary issue of Timber Talk which comprised 20 pages and I had the privilege of editing. From time to time we will include brief snippets from our past.

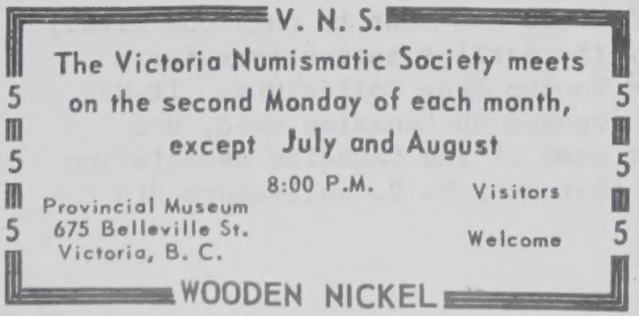
In the early and mid-1970's there were a few wooden money clubs in the United States. I served as Canadian New Issue Chairman for IOWMC for a period of time and did contribute articles to a number of clubs. (Each article was sent to only one club.) When it ws decided to form a club in Canada one of the earlier suggestions for a name for our group was the Association of Canadian Wooden Mony Collectors. It was our intention to provide a vehicle that primarily focused on Canadian wood, not necessarily Canadian collectors. Thus the current name of The Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors was selected. We knew that many U. S. collectors did collect Canadian wood.

WOOD LIST FOR SALE: Few people realize the hard work and dedication required to print a wooden money catalogue or update listing of new wood. Before either of the above can be done one must first obtain the information and copies of the wood. No small task! Our Past-President, Norm Belsten has issued a 97 (approx.) page listing - update - for wood issued or discovered since the last listing. This list is without pictures, but does comprise all wood issued - complete with description. Note - this is not just an update - it is a complete listing of known wood. The cost is a very modest $22.00 Canadian postpaid to Canadian addresses or $20.00 U. S. postpaid to U. S. addresses and is available from: Norm Belsten, 37 Neames Cres., Downsview, Ontario M3L 1K8 Canada (phone- 416-247-7676). I've got my copy, do you have yours yet? Only 100 were printed so please order yours today. Thank you.
By way of general information Norm advises that there are approximately 4800 wood listed with a breakdown as follows: Nfld. and Lab. - 12, N.W.T. - 8, Nova Scotia - 112, P.E.I. - 29, New Brunswick - 487, Quebec - 307, Ontario - 2163, Manitoba - 130, Saskatchewan - 342, Alberta - 640, B. C. - 398, Yukon - 10, Spruce Dollars - 148, and Misc. not attributed - 30. And how many are you missing???? The listing is printed on 8½" x 11" paper and is prepunched for a three-ring binder.

NEW WOOD: Another faithful contributor is John Cheramy who advises of three issues. One is an unlisted issue from the Yukon. They are shown below. I am sorry that I do not have more information, but not even John has all these wood. (Yet!)

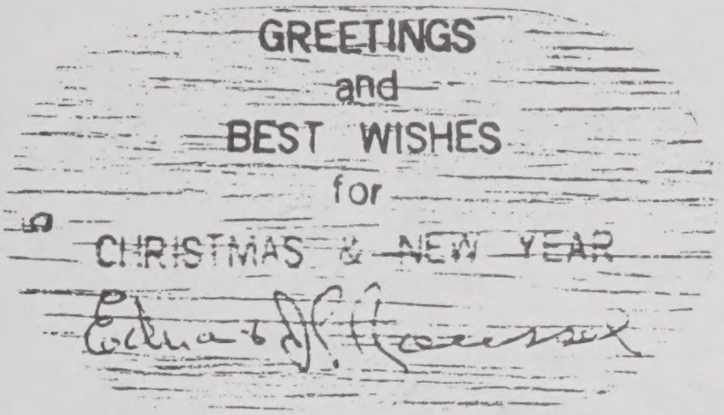


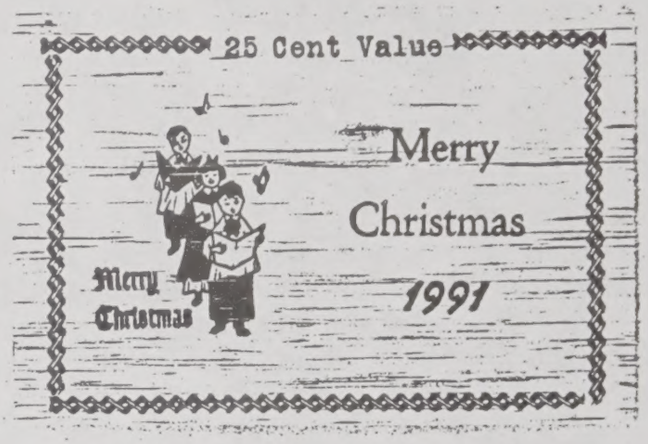


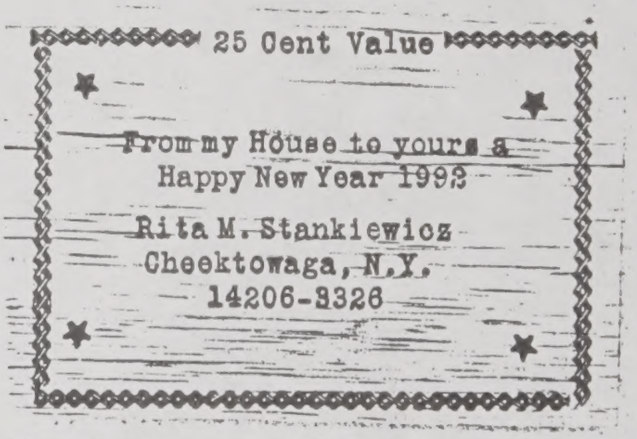


AUCTION: Have you sent your bids in to Al for the latest CAWMC Mail Auction yet?

CHRISTMAS WOOD: I have a couple of late Christmas wood. Both were sent to the old Box number at Station 'M' which was closed about a year ago when the Post Office relocated. Fortunately I know a few people at the new location and one of the Supervisors dug through the files and forwarded these to me. P-l-e-a-s-e send all correspondence to me personally or to the Editor at the address shown at the top of Page 1. Thank you. Rita M. Stankiewicz of 58 Shanley St., Cheektowaga, New York 14206-3326 U. S. A. advises that she does have few of her issue left whcih she will be happy to send to you for a SASE. Thanks also to Edna and J. P. Roussel for their Christmas wood - a shape one does not usually see. They are both shown below.

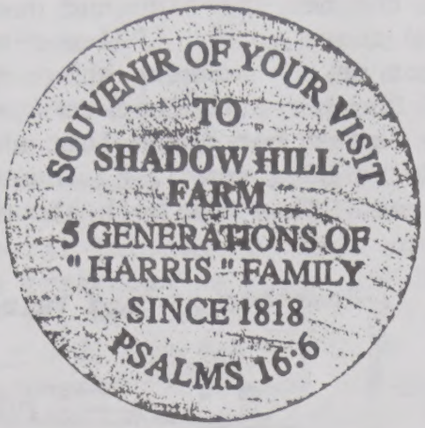


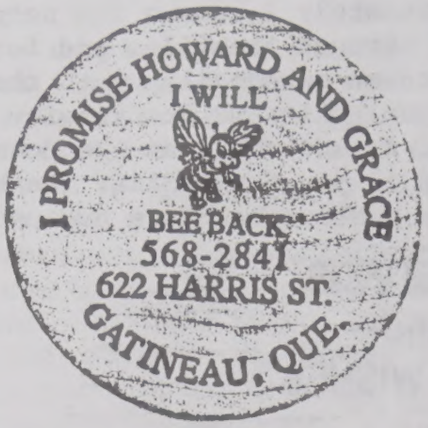




ST. PATRICK'S DAY WOOD: John Lawrence printed 100 of these wood for John and Marcella Brennan of Ottawa. John advises that they have all been distributed. Thanks again John.

A NOVEL IDEA: Howard and Grace Harris of Shadow Hill Place, 622 Harris Street, Gatineau, Quebec J8R 1S8 have issued a wooden dollar to commemmorate vistors to their place. Unfortunately I received mine in the mail, not from a personal vist. It is printed in black and is shown below.

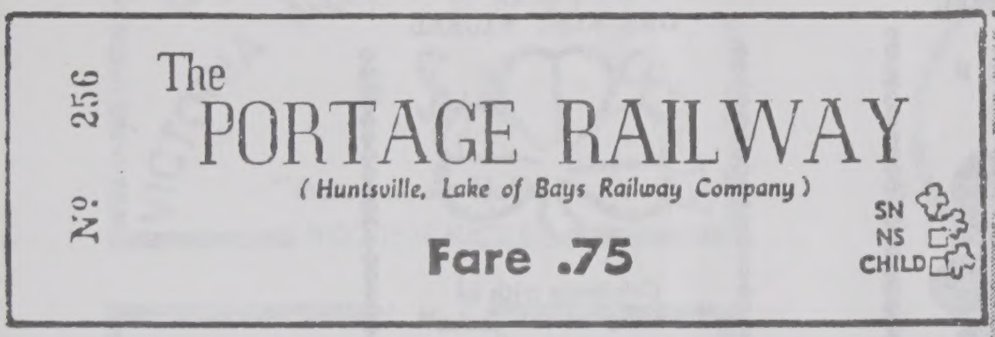
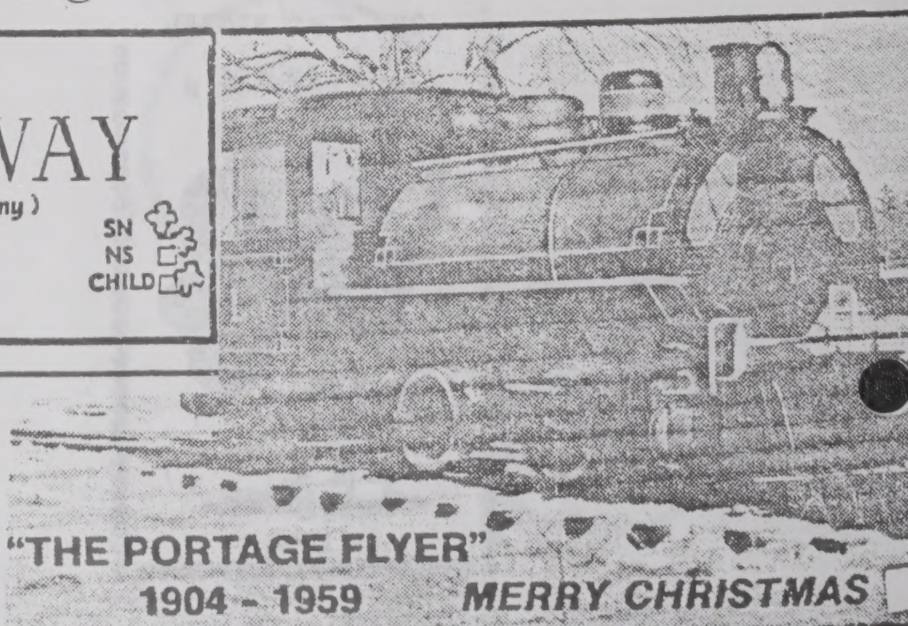




A SASKATCHEWAN WOOD: From Alf Wrigley and Al Munro- The wood pictured below was issued to commemmorate the Stang family reunion in 1980. The reunion was held in the area between North Battleford and Prince Albert. It is uniface. Alf and Al each have only one of these woods in their respective collections. Neither has any spares for sale or trade. Sorry.

CHRISTMAS PAST: Ed and Gwen Keetch issued a postcard size Christmas wood in 1989 and in 1990. Their 1990 issue is shown below.

Merry Christmas 1990

from Ed and Gwen Keetch

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